IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of

OKANO et al

Application Number: To Be Determined

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

FOR: ELECTROPHORESIS CHIP

5/8/02

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant has amended the claim in order to eliminate the multiple dependency of claim and thereby reduce the filing fee in accordance with standard U.S. practice. Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute the claim with the following amended claim:

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8. (Amended) The electrophoresis chip according to claim 1, wherein a width of said electrophoresis medium is set in a range of 0.1mm to 5mm.

Please add the following new claim:

The electrophoresis chip according to claim 2, wherein a width of said electrophoresis medium is set in a range of 0.1mm to 5mm.